

THE BIG STONE GAP POST.

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Are We Losing Our Energy?

If prices of provisions keep
on climbing as they have been
doing during the past year, the
effect should be a great stimulus
to the "back to the farm"
movement of which we have
heard so much the past decade.

Common sense and observa-
tion should teach any man that
one of the main causes of the
high price of food stuff is the
growing scarcity of farm labor,
and the consequent curtailment
of acreage cultivated. Thou-
sands of farmers all over this
country, unable to secure ade-
quate help, are gradually cur-
tailing their operations until it
is no uncommon sight to see a
farm that formerly sold four or
five hundred bushels of corn
now hardly producing enough
to feed the stock and fatten the
pork.

Of course we all know that a
gang of unprincipled blood
suckers have seized upon the
war as an excuse for boosting
the price of everything that we
consume, but if a scarcity of
production did not exist the
foreign demand for foodstuffs
would be met and there would
still remain in this country a
sufficient quantity to supply all
home demands at reasonable
prices.

Just why young men, and
older ones, too, should wish to
leave the farm and rush off to
the overcrowded cities is not
easy to understand. True, they
work hard on the farm. And
equally true, they work even
harder in the city and save
less. In a majority of cases,
unless they are intellectually
far above the average of man-
kind, they live in penury and
die in want.

With the present demand for
farm products it would certainly
appear the height of folly to
abandon the certainty of plenty
on the farm for the precarious
life of the average city dweller.

A New York writer gives as
a reason for men leaving the
farms, that they dread being
known as "Country Jakes." With
the present easy means of
communication between town
and country it is difficult in
these days to distinguish the
town man from the country-
man. If anything, the country-
man approaches nearer to mas-
culine perfection than the city
cousin.

Looked at from whatever
angle we may view it, the
question of the future of the
farms is serious. That our
young men are leaving it by
the thousands is a fact. That
there are none to replace them
is also a lamentable fact.

And in endeavoring to locate
the cause one is almost forced
to the conclusion that the men
of this nation are gradually los-
ing that love of honest toil
for which their forefathers
were noted.

Town Vs Country.

One serious obstacle to the
cordial relations that should
exist between all classes of
American life is the unreason-
ing antagonism that so often
exists between the town and the
country.

Why this should exist is hard
to see, in view of the fact that
each is largely dependent upon
the other in many of the rela-
tions of life.

Unfortunately, however, it is
a fact with which we have to
deal when considering any mat-
ter of import to the people of
any given section.

This prejudice shows itself in
political life, in church life, in
social life and even in business.
It frequently manifests itself in
a conviction of the country man
that the town man is always
watching for an opportunity to
"do" him. He is convinced
that all existent evil has its
origin in the towns. The town
man, to this man, exists for no
other purpose than to prey off
the farmers.

On the other hand it frequent-
ly occurs that the people of the
town become imbued with the
belief that the country people
"have it in for them."

Thus are the relations be-
tween the two in a strained
condition, and in many cases
even the most ordinary busi-
ness relations are hindered and
blocked by this unreasoning
and unreasonable jealousy.

Perhaps you say the picture
is over drawn. It is not. The
writer has seen and is familiar
with just such communities.
And, unfortunately, in many
instances the prejudice is well
founded.

It is a fact that the clanish
spirit is the last to die of all the
savage instincts of man. "My
clan and my class mean every-
thing to me, and your clan and
your class are my natural en-
emies." That is the sub-con-
scious reasoning of many men
even yet—and of men in whom
we would least expect it.

Is there, you ask, a remedy?
Yes, there is one, but it is an
individual remedy. That is
charity—that charity which
"covereth a multitude of sins"
—that charity which "thinketh
no evil."

Like many other causes of
friction between people, this
condition grows from slight
causes, and a little toleration
and charity at the right time
and place will go a long way
toward remedying matters.

Also stress the fact that the
two elements are mutually de-
pendent upon each other—their
interests one. Let each say to
himself, as said another of old,
"we be brethren."

Ever try a genuine dose of
charity toward your neighbor?
Try it. You will be surprised
how rapidly he will grow in
your estimation.

Too Many Middle Men

Says a leading southern agri-
cultural paper:

"Fifteen just plain Mississippi
farmers got together without
any frills and shipped a car
load of very ordinary hogs to
St. Louis, getting as high as
ten cents a pound live weight
for them."

This item tells a tale that
should be of deep interest to
every farmer who has anything
to sell.

Why should it be thought
necessary that everything pro-
duced on the farms of our coun-
try should go through the hands
of half a dozen middle men be-
fore it reaches the consumer?

Take the case in point. Or-
dinarily these farmers would
have sold to a small stock job-
ber, he to a shipper, he to an-
other go-between at the other
end of the route, when the

stock would possibly have
reached the packers for whom
it was intended.

The action of those Mississi-
ppi farmers is to be commended.
The farmers of this community
might do well to afford a like
opportunity for commendation.

They would get more for their
products and the ultimate
consumer in the end would pay
less for the necessities of life.

There are too many middle
men. And middle men are ex-
pensive and in many cases
wholly unnecessary.

Young Railroad Man Killed.

Joseph Hurley, aged 26, of
Mohawk, Tenn., a fireman on a
steam shovel of the Southern
Railway, was fatally scalded
Sunday afternoon near St.
Charles by being caught under
the shovel when it overturned.
He was given temporary medi-
cal aid at the time and later
brought to Appalachia and
from there removed to the hos-
pital at Stonega, but died be-
fore reaching there. Other
members of the crew escaped
without injury and upon exam-
ination Hurley's body revealed
no bruises with the exception
of one finger cut off, although
he was caught squarely under
the shovel, the escaping steam
from the engine literally roast-
ing him from head to foot. He
lived about five hours after the
accident.

The body was brought to Big
Stone Gap Sunday night, where
it was prepared for burial by
W. W. Taylor & Sons, under-
takers, and shipped to the
home of the deceased at Mo-
hawk, Tenn., Monday morning.

Sleep Contributes to Mary- land's Prosperity.

Rockville, Md., Jan. 5.—
Among those arrested at Chevy
Chase by Deputy Sheriffs Peake
and Trail, charged with violat-
ing the automobile regulations
of Maryland, were Representa-
tive C. B. Sleep, of Virginia,
and Andrew J. (Cy) Cummings,
excise commissioner of Wash-
ington. The Congressman and
Mr. Cummings were taken be-
fore Justice James A. Keihler.

Others gathered in by the
deputies' net were R. H. Pilsen,
H. O. Ostwald, John L. Miller,
Preston Lowe, Benjamin Len-
dall, William Harrod, M. E.
Ailes and R. T. McKnow, Wash-
ington, and J. O. Murray, of
Silver Spring. Some of the al-
leged violators were fined, the
penalty ranging from \$5 and
costs to \$50 and costs, while the
cases of the others will be dis-
posed of later.

High Prices Fifty Years Ago.

Abingdon, Va., Jan. 2.—In
December, 1864, a speculator
said to me: "I am going to
Lee County to buy up stock.
You are wounded and not able
for duty. Go with me."

I went with him through
Scott, Wise and Lee counties
to Turkey Cove, in the latter
county. Then we came back
to a friend of ours on the north
side of Wallen's Ridge, in Wise
county, where we found some
fat hogs. He bought our
friend's hogs and I bought
twenty six or twenty eight fat
hogs in the same neighborhood.
We paid fifty cents per pound,
gross, for the hogs. My lot
weighed a little over 5,000
pounds. I also bought four fat
cattle (oxen) there, I gave \$1,000
for one pair and \$875 for the
other pair.

We drove our stock two days,
when we met a man on the Fin-
castle road in Russell county.
He said he was and agent for
a company at Saltville, and
wished to buy our hogs for his
company. After some time
spent in reaching a trade, we
sold him the hogs for \$1 per
pound as weighed to us. I
drove the cattle home, where
they were slaughtered. They
weighed 1,820 pounds, net.
They failed to pay first cost by
a small amount.—J. R. in Bristol
Herald Courier.

Miss Mollie Ashworth, of
Blue Springs, is visiting rela-
tives near Gate City.

The ordinance commit-
tee of the town council has under
consideration for presenting for
final passage by the Town
Council ordinances prohibiting
the spinning of revolving doors
in public buildings and the dis-
charging of air guns that shoot
metal or other hard substance
on streets or platted parts of
town.

Will Amer- ica Redeem Mexico?

Now that the election is over
and Mr. Wilson has been en-
trusted with the reins of gov-
ernment for another four years,
there is one piece of work that
will forcibly demand his atten-
tion, and that is the pacifica-
tion of Mexico.

We are well aware that the
Mexican problem presents great
difficulties, view it from what-
ever angle we may. But they
are difficulties that may and
can be overcome, and as time
goes on it becomes more and
more apparent that it is up to
the United States to overcome
them.

The truth of the whole mat-
ter is that Mexico is suffering
from the same misrule from
which we freed Cuba—the de-
cadent Spanish rule.

Mexico is a republic only in
name. Not the first principle
of popular rule has ever pre-
vailed in that country. The
forces that have always con-
trolled her destiny have been
those bequeathed by Spain.
With misrule and oppression on
the one hand, and sullen hatred
and resentment on the other, it
is small wonder that she has
been in a perpetual state of un-
rest and turbulence.

President Diaz was the only
ruler in her history who ever
maintained a semblance of or-
der, and he did so solely by the
use of the mailed hand. Since
his day poor Mexico has seen
naught but anarchy. Anarchy
prevails there today—anarchy
and wholesale brigandage.

Argue as we may against the
idea of intervention, the fact is
daily becoming more apparent
that it is the only solution.
That enlightened America
should sit idly by and make no
effort to remedy the intolerable
state of affairs prevailing there,
is inconceivable. Mexico is a
blot on the Western civilization,
and only Western civilization
can erase that blot.

Of course every American
wishes that the redemption of
Mexico may be accomplished by
peaceable means if possible.
But the progress being made in
that direction appears to the
average mind as negligible.
The matter seems no nearer a
solution today than it did fifty
years ago.

From the days of President
Buchanan until today, every
president has had the same dif-
ficulties to contend with there.
Each has had his vexing "Mex-
ican question," and it is re-
markable how similar have
been the circumstances that
each has had to face.

Not only the present genera-
tion, but the unborn genera-
tions of the future of that un-
happy land demand of us that
we confer upon them some of
the blessings that our forebears
bequeathed to us.

Twenty years ago Cuba was
in as pitiable condition as Mex-
ico is today. We have remade
and rehabilitated her, and to-
day she is enjoying that peace
and prosperity which her
natural advantages merit.

We can do the same for un-
happy Mexico. We should do
the same for her. But will we
do it?

You can write SHORTHAND
from dictation
after only
TEN EASY LESSONS
as taught in a new way at
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SHORTHAND SCHOOL
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month. Detains upon
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JOB PRINTING

Don't think you are getting REAL job print-
ing just because you are having your work
done at a "printing office." Investigate and
learn for yourself that there is a vast difference
between real job printing and "just printing."
We are prepared to do

REAL PRINTING

Not only because we have the equipment, but
because we possess the "know how." Our
long experience and knowledge in the printing
business enables us to handle job printing on
a saving basis. We will share this saving
with you and will guarantee every piece of
work turned out in our plant. Will you bring
that next job to us and have it done right?
No long waiting for the finished product. We
do things "Now."

WISE PRINTING COMPANY

Incorporated

Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Help For the Alcoholic Addict.

"If any man doubts that
candy will relieve the drink
habit", says the Medical World
under recent date, "he can
easily test it."

This paper goes on: "The
man who puts lots of molasses
on his wheat cakes at break-
fast will find himself gradually
forgetting to stop in for his
customary drink on his way to
work. If the man who 'goes
out' between times for liquid
refreshments will go into a
candy store instead and get
five or ten cents worth of candy
and eat it, he will be surprised
at the effect. It will not be
very long until he will have
candy on his desk and carry it
in his pockets. Not one man in
a hundred knows why he for-
got to go out and see a man
when attending the theatre, if
he had bought a box of candy
for his companion and eaten a
little of it himself for politeness' sake."

I have known many men who
were accustomed to the use of
alcoholic stimulants, and among
them I have never known a
man who cared anything for
candy. The reason for this is
simple: Sugar taken into the
system is acted on by the di-
gestive fluids, fermented and
thereby produces a mild alco-
holic ferment, which, while
not in the least harmful, sup-
plies elements absolutely neces-
sary in the human economy in
producing bodily warmth and
blood vitality. The moderate
eating of candy at frequent in-
tervals will absolutely relieve
the alcoholic craving as no other
thing will do, and this infor-
mation is of such vital impor-
tance that it ought to be given
the widest publicity to insure
the greatest benefit to those
who need it most.—F. H. La
Baume.

Headache

Is one of the common symp-
toms of womanly trouble, and
the cause has to be removed
before you can rid yourself of it
entirely. A medicine that mere-
ly kills pain, does not go to the
seat of the trouble, and kill the
cause. What you need is a
woman's medicine—one which
acts directly, yet gently, on the
womanly organs.

TAKE

Cardui

The Woman's Tonic

After having used Cardui,
Miss Lillie Gibson, of Chris-
man, Texas, writes: "About
three years ago, I was just
entering womanhood, and was
sick in bed for nearly nine
months. Sometimes I would
have such headaches, and other
aches, I could hardly stand
it. I tried Cardui, and now I
am cured of all my troubles. I
shall praise Cardui as long as I
live." Cardui is the medicine
you need. Try it. E-69

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